

EO-9838  
LEGAL NOTICE FOR  
SCOPING  
Ellis Integrated Vegetation Project

The Umatilla National Forest is preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Ellis Integrated Vegetation Project (Ellis Project), and we are asking you to provide scoping comments. This project is being developed to enhance resilient landscapes by creating and maintaining heterogeneous vegetative conditions at both the stand and landscape scale. The project area encompasses approximately 110,000 acres and is located on the Heppner and North Fork John Day Districts of the Umatilla National Forest 15 miles south east of Heppner, Oregon and 7 miles west of Ukiah, Oregon in Morrow, Umatilla, and Grant Counties.

The Ellis Project proposal is considering the following treatments to meet the purpose and need of the project: commercial thinning; small diameter thinning; mechanical fuels treatments; pile, jackpot, and landscape burning; pruning; planting; and large wood placement in meadow streams. These proposed activities are being considered to achieve the following goals: reduce the risk of uncharacteristic disturbances; enhance unique vegetative communities; provide well-distributed, high quality wildlife habitat; aid in protecting values at risk; promote the health and safety of public and firefighters; and contribute to social, cultural, and economic needs. Proposal information is also available on Umatilla National Forest's project webpage at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41350>

This project is subject to comment pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Only those who submit timely, project-specific written comments during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection. Comments received within 60 days of the publication of this legal notice are assured consideration in the next phase of project planning.

Submit comments on the Umatilla National Forest's project webpage (link above) by selecting the "Comment on Project" link in the "Get Connected" group at the right hand side of the project webpage. Put the project name in the subject line; attachments may be in the following formats: plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), Word (.doc, .docx), or portable document format (.pdf).

Written comments can be submitted by fax 541-676-2105; mailed to Brandon Houck, ATTN: Leslie Taylor, P.O. Box 7, Heppner, Oregon 97836; or hand-delivered (117 S. Main Street, Heppner, Oregon 97836) during normal business hours (8am to 4:30pm Monday-Friday, excluding holidays). For oral comments or more project information contact the project's environmental coordinator Leslie Taylor at 541-427-5324 or [ldtaylor@fs.fed.us](mailto:ldtaylor@fs.fed.us)

People interested in the project are also encouraged to attend public workshops during the scoping comment period: Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. at the Heppner Ranger District (117 S. Main St., Heppner, OR 97836); Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. at the North Fork John Day Ranger District (401 W. Main St., Ukiah, OR 97880); and Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. at the Heppner Ranger District (117 S. Main St., Heppner, OR 97836).

November 6, 2018